

Message Text

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R 202227Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:

SUBJECT: MEXICAN RESPONSE TO SPANISH REQUEST FOR ADHERENCE
TO IATTC

1. UNDER ARTICLE V(3) OF TROPICAL TUNA CONVENTION, ANY GOVERNMENT WHOSE NATIONALS PARTICIPATE IN THE FISHERIES COVERED BY THE CONVENTION, DESIRING TO ADHERE TO THE CONVENTION, SHALL ADDRESS A COMMUNICATION TO THAT EFFECT TO EACH OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES. THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF EACH OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES IS REQUIRED. SPAIN ADDRESSED SUCH A REQUEST TO IATTC CONVENTION PARTIES IN 1973, AND ALTHOUGH DEPT'S INFO NOT COMPLETE, WE BELIEVE ALL PARTIES EXCEPT NICARAGUA (WHICH WAS NOT A PARTY AT THE TIME) AND MEXICO HAVE GIVEN CONSENT. GOM REPS HAVE INFORMALLY EXPRESSED TO U.S. THAT THEIR PROBLEMS IN RESPONDING ARE DUE TO LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

2. U.S. REP TO IATTC INFORMALLY SUGGESTED TO MEXICAN REP.
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THAT GOM MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER COMMUNICATING WITH SPAIN THROUGH THE IATTC COMMISSION IF GOM COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH SUCH COMMUNICATION DIRECTLY. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS HAS BEEN DONE. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE OTHER WAYS GOM

COULD GIVE ITS CONSENT WITHOUT COMMUNICATING DIRECTLY WITH GOS. CONSENT COULD BE GIVEN THROUGH A THIRD PARTY IF MEXICO NORMALLY USES THE EMBASSY OF A THIRD COUNTRY TO COMMUNICATE WITH SPAIN. ALTERNATIVELY, U.S. WOULD BE

WILLING TO HAVE CONSENT SUBMITTED TO U.S. AND TO TRANSMIT IT, IN TURN, TO SPAIN.

3. SPANISH EMBASSY HAS TWICE IN RECENT WEEKS INQUIRED ABOUT STATUS OF MEXICO'S RESPONSE AND ASKED IF WE COULD DO ANYTHING TO HELP. AS IT IS CERTAINLY IN INTEREST OF ALL IATTC MEMBERS TO HAVE OTHER NATIONS FISHING IN THE AREA JOIN THE ORGANIZATION AND BE SUBJECT TO ITS CONSERVATION PROVISIONS, DEPT. IS INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING A RESPONSE FROM MEXICO.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMB. REQUESTED TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN LOW KEY MANNER WITH APPROPRIATE GOM OFFICIALS DRAWING ON SUGGESTED APPROACHES IN PARA. 2 ABOVE, AND INDICATING THAT WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO EXPLORE WITH THEM METHODS WHICH WOULD MEET BOTH CONVENTION REQUIREMENTS AND GOM PROBLEMS. IN THIS LIGHT, WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR EMB. OFF. TO EXPLORE WHETHER THERE ARE ANY CONSTRAINTS ON A FAVORABLE RESPONSE BY GOM (I.E., IS IT ANY PROBLEM FOR GOM TO STATE THAT IT CONSENTS AS OPPOSED TO THAT IT DOES NOT OBJECT) OR WHETHER MAJOR PROBLEM IS HOW SUCH CONSENT IS COMMUNICATED.

5. FYI: QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP OF DISTANT WATER FISHING STATES IN INTERNATIONAL TUNA ORGANIZATIONS IS SOMEWHAT SENSITIVE DUE TO CURRENT DISCUSSIONS IN LOS CONFERENCE. THUS, SUGGEST APPROACH TO GOM BE LOW KEY AND ORIENTED TOWARD EXPLORING GOM VIEWS AND OFFERING ASSISTANCE IF THEY APPEAR TO HAVE NO OBJECTION. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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